

# The Lemon Grove REVIEW



BULK RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
LA MESA, CA.  
PERMIT NO. 188

Vol. 48, No.75

Serving Lemon Grove and nearby communities

Tuesday, July 2, 1996 25c

## Bobby Sox leagues to hold season-end tournaments

by Greg Eichelberger

For the past two months, the over 100 teams that comprise the various East County Bobby Sox leagues have played on various fields throughout this part of the county, engaged in terrific battles of epic proportion, and fought each other tooth-and-nail only to come down to a massive, 65-team, season-ending all-star tournament, which will take place in El Cajon, Lakeside and Yuma, Arizona on July 13-17.

The contests, scheduled to take place at Magnolia Elementary School on Greenfield Drive and Cactus Park, will determine which Team, some from as far away as Oceanside, Vista, San Dieguito and Yuma, will journey to the national finals to be held in Moron Valley during the second weekend in August.

East County will be adequately represented by squads from El Cajon, Lakeside, Santee, Spring Valley, Lemon Grove and La Mesa.

"We really need to get the word out about this fine organization," said Beth Locher, Secretary of the Board of Directors and head of the Lakeside tournament. "This is the biggest such event ever hosted by our community, and we want everyone to come out and see these talented young

from all over Southern California and Arizona."

Bobby Sox, a fast-pitch softball association, has been in existence for 36 years and is the female equivalent of what used to be the boy-dominated Little League for girls from 4 1/2 to 18 years of age.

The rules are a bit different (women manage the teams and a female must be in the dugout at all times), but the competition is just as fierce and intense as any man's game.

"I've seen some high school boys snicker at a girl softball pitcher," commented Locher. "But when they get in the batter's box and face one of their tosses, they're not so cocky."

She said some of the girls can be clocked at between 65 and 75 miles per hour, and that's fast no matter what gender you are.

"And it's even more frightening because, with their underhanded motion, you can't tell where the ball is going to go," Locher said.

President of the Lakeside League, Joe Hernandez, was brought into the fold by his daughters, who wanted to play softball.

"I brought them down here, and saw what a fun, clean, healthy atmosphere they would be playing in, so I decided to volunteer some of my time to it," he said. Later, with



Lakeside's Heather Locher, 11, is one of a multitude of East County young women participating in the Bobby Sox year-end all-star tournament in July.

Photo by Greg Eichelberger

one daughter growing out of the sport, he became the head of the league, one of the largest in Southern California.

"I'm relatively new at this," he claimed modestly. "There are managers and coaches who have come up through the ranks as players, and some leaders have been here for more than 20 years."

Hernandez also praised long-time local coach, Rick Smith, who in addition to his leadership qualities, is also providing the ice for the concessions. Smith, who owns Cube-Air Refrigeration, will be assisting Robin and Larry Browne as the American Girl Red team faces off in the series.

Senior Commissioner of San Diego County Charlotte Simmons of La Mesa, involved with the group for 33 years, is proud of the girls who have played and are playing for this league.

"We stress not only talent and abilities on the field, but sportsmanship and courtesy off of it," she said. "We're always looking for young ladies and volunteers for this program because we believe it brings out the best in all of us."

The tournament games are scheduled for Saturday and Sunday beginning at 8 a.m. Monday 10 a.m. (Lakeside), 1 p.m. (El Cajon), Tuesday 2 p.m., and Wednesday (championship) 2 p.m.

For more information on the Bobby Sox, call Simmons at 697-7626.

## American fans still missing out on soccer

by Greg Eichelberger

Among the over 6,000 enthusiastic fans on hand last Friday at the San Diego Sockers 1996 home opener was East County resident Patti Wetzel and her two children, Traci, 11, and Tyler, 8.

The trio witnessed an exciting, emotionally-draining contest as the home team pulled out a 10-8 victory over the Portland Pride.

And while this local family watches and plays the sport (Patti for an over-30 El Cajon women's squad, and her kids on Santee AYSO teams), most of the American population still has yet to embrace soccer on a professional level. An interesting conundrum for the most popular game on the face of the earth.

"When my daughter joined AYSO, when she was six," said Wetzel, who works with visually-impaired children in the San Diego Unified School District. "I wasn't that interested in it. But since then, I've grown to love the game and even play it myself once a week."

Soccer, at some local venues, is just as popular, if not more so, than Little and Khoury League baseball, the Santee AYSO, for example hav-

ing over 1,000 participants. But other than the recent World Cup matches, Americans seem to lose interest when asked to shell out hard-earned funds to activate the turnstiles.

Imagine the Padres or Chargers winning 10 straight World Series or Super Bowls, respectively. Just think what kind of fan support that would engender.

Translate that success, however to professional soccer, and it just doesn't mean that much.

"I think people get bored with watching guys kick a ball back and forth," said Wetzel. "As a whole, we like to see quick, action-filled sporting events, and outdoor soccer just doesn't fill that void."

In an effort to alleviate that problem, the sport began an arena organization (the Major Indoor Soccer League) back in the late 1970s and for several years, that group flourished, with the Sockers winning 10 titles in 11 campaigns. By 1989, though, the league folded and several attempts to begin again went askew. The latest incarnation, known as the Continental Indoor Soccer League, fields 12 teams, including one in Monterrey, Mexico.

Concurrently, there is an outdoor organization known only by the unimaginative moniker as "Major League Soccer" that, as of this writing, contains nine squads from New England to Los Angeles.

But in an era of instant gratification (in sports, as well as everything else), soccer, at least in the U.S., will remain the red-headed stepchild of the recreation world.

"I think kids like to play because it's fun to run up and down the field and kick the ball," said Wetzel, who has seen her children spend most of their young lives involved in the game. "And in some schools, it's the only game available to play."

It is also very inexpensive. A ball and two make-shift goals are all that's needed to complete the equipment ensemble, unlike the cost of outfitting a Little League or Pop Warner squad.

The Sockers are quick to realize the potential customer base inherent in these little ones. With special giveaway promotions, beautiful cheerleaders (who frolic and wave flags after each home team goal and toss new balls into the stands), eye-catching pre-game light show rituals

Continued on Page 3

## Welcome to Tuesday's Sports Weekly

Welcome to the second edition of the *Sports Weekly*. While still an edition of the *Lemon Grove Review*, the Tuesday paper will focus on sports. Because we are a weekly covering a region also covered by daily papers, our focus will not be stats and game stories but features on interesting athletes, teams, coaches and trends.

Last August, we started publishing newspapers on Tuesday in an effort to increase our flexibility in publishing legal notices for governmental bodies and other clients.

In the last few months, it's become clear that our readers want more news and the business community wants more options for advertising.

We also want to give the Tuesday edition its own identity, something that sets it apart from the Thursday's weekly community news format.

Many of our regular correspondents are diving right into sports coverage, but we invite your news as well. Photos and stories on local athletes and teams are always welcome.

Forum Publications is pleased to support local sports. In a time when kids are often tempted to turn to darker pursuits, we want to encourage them to play and excel, to learn the critical skills of personal discipline and teamwork.

Thanks for your continued support!



# Commentary

by Paul Treske

Independence  
Day 1996

It's almost Independence Day 1996, and no national birthday of recent years has had a more fitting metaphor of the times than the newly released motion picture, "Independence Day."

There was a time, of course, when Independence Day meant screen opuses such as "Yankee Doodle Dandy" or "Music Man," but what 1996 gets instead is the release of a movie in which a dark and hovering space enemy levels the White House and several notable U.S. cities with wowser special effects before, naturally, the good guys fight back and whip 'em with equally wonderful effects.

I haven't seen the flick, nor do I intend to ... it is not my kind of entertainment ... but the previews have been more than enough to give the general idea. But the film, like many other "blockbusters" showing these days, is the perfect metaphor for our nation today: show and effect over substance.

The Romans (and every other major world power since) had the idea. When there are signs of rot, decay and insurmountable difficulty, give the people bigger and better carnivals. And today's U.S. "carnival" is special effects technology. Give them an explosion every 30 seconds or so, lots of gunfire and physically impossible feats and crown it all with an apocalypse of destruction and they sleep better that night.

To a great extent, this year's presidential election debate has followed a similar path with the national media as an all-too-guilty co-conspirator. There are lots of real issues today: an ocean change in national employment patterns, health care, burning southern churches, youth crime, etc. Instead, we have spent months in a futile but suggestive Whitewater chase, an unsubstantiated and scurrilous book by a discredited ex-FBI agent, Bob Dole's age and former military service and Hillary talking to Eleanor Roosevelt.

To be sure, there is actually something of a real effort to define national issues and values going on in, of all places, Congress at this time. Both parties are trying to spell out what they really stand for in a quiet and thoughtful manner. But nobody, especially the national media, appears to care much. A few columnists have explored these efforts on the op-ed pages, but TV news and newspaper front pages are too filled up with Hillary and Eleanor and whether or not Bill Clinton really sneaks out at night for sex. In short, we give the dumb old common folks carnivals and circuses and wonder why they are cynical and don't vote.

I have no desire, this Fourth of July, to see the White House realistically blown up by aliens. Arnold shoot everyone in sight or endless replays of how scary and full of special effects the new Jurassic Park Ride may be. Family companionship, good food, maybe a little modest fireworks somewhere and some serious thought as to where we really are on this 220th birthday are enough for a day. I leave the circuses to others.

## Letter to the Editor

### Washington created 'deadbeat dads'

Let me tell you who is responsible for our newest scapegoats, dead-beat dads.

For the past 30 years or more, the federal government, as a stipulation for a parent to receive welfare payments, has required that one parent must be absent from the home. In the overwhelming majority of cases, this "absent" parent has been the fathers.

Now, in California at least, absent dads are being encouraged and in some cases required to be married to the mom in order to remain in the household legally.

This is a major improvement and may be a way to strengthen the family, rather than tear it apart, as was being done in the past. I sincerely hope the federal government will stand up and take notice of California's lead. If, in all 50 states, it was required for welfare recipients to be married and living together, except in cases of abuse, intact families would once again prevail.

Father Sam gave dads the boot 30 years ago. Now our Great Father is beginning to let these dads back into their homes and this is as should be.

Through this transition, however, let us remember: Dads did not leave the homes voluntarily. They were forced out by the federal government. If we are looking for someone to blame for the sad state of poor families today, we should look at the system, not the individuals who are always only pawns in their games.

DAVE MURRAY  
Santee

\$35!

Send your Fictitious Business  
Statement to

The Lemon  
Grove Review

Box 127, Lemon Grove, CA 91946

(Why pay the Daily Californian \$42?)

## The Lemon Grove Review

3434 Grove Street, Box 127,  
Lemon Grove, CA 91946 •  
(619) 469-0101

Published Tuesdays and Thursdays.  
Adjudicated a newspaper of general  
circulation in Superior Court of State of  
California in and for San Diego County,  
December 5, 1949. Entered as Third  
Class matter in the post office of La  
Mesa, California, 91941.

Adjudication Number 155392.  
\$18 yearly in San Diego County.  
\$40 yearly elsewhere in U.S.A.  
USPS NO. 309840

Steven Saint, Publisher

Assistant to the publisher:

Jeff Paris, Marv Rosen,

Trudy Thomas

Contributing writers: Lora Clark,  
Phillip Giannangeli, Cynthia O'Neill,  
Howard Owens, Dave Schwab, Paul  
Treske, Betty Jo Tucker

### Submissions

Letters, editorial and photo submis-  
sions are welcome, but will not be re-  
turned to sender unless accompanied by  
self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Material can be sent via e-mail at  
the following address: sdgreens  
@igc.apc.org.

All materials must be received by  
the Monday preceding the date of pub-  
lication. The editor reserves the right  
to edit all submissions.

### Advertising

All advertising is subject to current  
rate card. The publisher reserves the  
right to reject an advertiser's order.

Only publication of an advertise-  
ment shall constitute final acceptance.

Send all correspondence to: Forum  
Publications, Inc., P.O. Box 127,  
Lemon Grove, CA 91946

## Lemon Grove Almanac

1994 Population: 25,100  
Incorporated: 1977  
Area: 3.75 sq. mi.  
Median income: \$34,399

Mayor: Mary Teresa Sessom  
Council: Thomas Clabby  
Craig Lake  
Dwight Shelley  
Jeff Jandura

City Manager: Doug Yount  
Planning Director: Jim Butler  
Attorney: Gloria McLean  
City Clerk: Christine Taub  
Sheriff's Capt.: Yolanda Collins  
Fire Chief: William Wright

Congressional district:  
52nd - Duncan Hunter  
State Senate district:  
40th - Steve Peace  
State Assembly district:  
77th - Steve Baldwin  
Supervisory district:  
2nd - Dianne Jacob

1993 taxable sales: \$1.47 million  
Libraries: 1  
Post offices: 1  
Parks: 4  
Recreation centers: 1


## PUBLIC NOTICES

### NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Grossmont Union High  
School District will receive bids  
for

TIME AND MATERIAL  
RATES FOR ASBESTOS  
ABATEMENT,  
DECONTAMINATION WORK,  
AND REMOVAL OF DEBRIS  
GENERATED  
DURING A RESPONSE  
ACTION

Each bid shall be submitted on a  
form obtained at the Purchasing  
Department of said District, locat-  
ed at 1100 Murray Drive, El  
Cajon, CA 92020-5664 (mailing  
address: P.O. Box 1042, La  
Mesa, CA 91944-1043), shall be  
sealed and filed in said Purchasing  
Department on or before 2:00 p.m.  
on

July 18, 1996

and will be publicly opened and  
read aloud at that time and place.

The contract will be awarded to  
the lowest responsive, responsible  
bidder meeting specifications. The  
Grossmont Union High School  
District reserves the right to reject  
any or all bids, to accept or reject  
any one or more items of a bid or  
to waive any irregularities or  
informalities in the bids or in the  
bidding.

No bidder may withdraw his bid  
for a period of thirty (30) days  
after the date set for the opening  
of bids.

In the event of identical bids, the  
Governing Board may determine  
by lot which bid shall be accepted  
per Public Contract Code 20117.

Maynard Olsen  
Clerk of the Governing Board  
Grossmont Union High School  
District

BID #2660

Lemon Grove Review  
July 2 & 9, 1996

## Lemon Grove Fire Log

June 14, 1996 through June 20, 1996

3200 blk. College Pl. Medical aid.  
7100 blk. Broadway. Chest pains.  
2800 blk. Massachusetts Ave. Person down.  
7800 blk. Palm St. Post op problems.  
7300 blk. Goodman Ln. Medical aid.  
3000 blk. New Jersey Ave. Traffic accident.  
8100 blk. Lemon Grove Way. Vegetation fire.  
7600 blk. Broadway. Difficulty breathing.  
College Ave./Livingston. Traffic accident.  
Hwy 94 EB/College Ave. Vehicle fire/freeway.  
1700 blk. Skyline Dr. Assist elderly.  
Hwy 94 EB/College Ave. Vehicle accident freeway.  
8000 blk. Tealwood Ct. Difficulty breathing.  
2000 blk. San Pasqual Ct. Overdose.  
7500 blk. Deville Dr. Chest pains.  
Hwy 94 WB/Lemon Grove Ave. Vehicle accident freeway.  
7400 blk. Broadway. Unknown medical.  
8000 blk. Lemon Grove Way. Assist motorist.  
3400 blk. Washington St. Dumpster Fire.  
7500 blk. San Miguel Ave. Assault victim.  
3200 blk. Kempf St. Chest pains.  
3200 blk. College Pl. Difficulty breathing.  
1300 blk. Skyline Dr. Unknown medical.  
Massachusetts Ave./Hwy 94. Unknown medical.  
2100 blk. Berryland Ct. Snake removal.  
7400 blk. Pacific Ave. Medical aid.  
1300 blk. Skyline Dr. Vegetation fire.  
7900 blk. North Ave. Possible heart.  
6900 blk. Federal Blvd. Head injury.  
3300 blk. Massachusetts Ave. Traffic accident.  
2200 blk. Debeco Dr. Possible heart.  
Massachusetts Ave./Hwy 94. Vehicle accident.  
7100 blk. Broadway. Traffic accident.

## In the Service

Navy Seaman Travis H. Moore, son of Terri R. Gross of Lemon  
Grove, has returned to San Diego after completing a six-month deploy-  
ment aboard the dock landing ship USS Anchorage.

Moore is one of nearly 600 sailors and Marines aboard the ship who  
completed the more than 30,000 mile voyage. Moore's ship was part  
of the three ship USS Peleliu Amphibious Ready Group (ARG), which  
also included the amphibious assault ship USS Peleliu, the amphibious  
transport dock USS Denver and the 15th Expeditionary Unit. The 1994  
graduate of Bonita Vista High School joined the Navy last year.



# Soccer

Continued from Page 1

straight from the NBA's playbook, and fast-paced, high-scoring action, the team hopes to attract a younger audience who will, in turn, drag their parents along.

So while not fanning the flames of passion necessary to begin riots, demonstrations, mass panics or outbreaks of war, soccer has plenty of followers here in the east county, and as long as that remains true, the Sockers, or whatever organization comes to town, will always have some sort of following.

Patti Wetzel, of Santee, and her children, Traci, 11 and Tyler, 8, love the Sockers, but professional soccer has yet to catch on nationwide among sports fans.

Photo by Greg Eichelberger



## Military champ organizes July 4 rodeo

by Joe Naiman

Lakeside's Jason Scott, the reigning military rodeo world champion, is organizing a military Bull Riders Only rodeo for the 4th of July weekend.

Scott, the 1995 MRCA all-around champion, will coordinate the event which will take place at Pacific Bull in Ramona July 4 and 6. The rodeo will be a fundraiser for the MRCA's World Buckle Fund. It will be sanctioned by the MRCA and earnings will count in the bull riding standings, although not in the all-around standings.

Scott, who grew up in Bossier City, Louisiana, moved to San Diego when he joined the Navy in April 1993. He was 21 when he started bull riding in November 1994.

During the 1995 MRCA season Scott was first in bull riding, fifth in bareback, and second in all-around. During the world championship at Camp Pendleton Scott won both the all-around championship and the bull riding championship, while finishing third in the bareback riding.

"I had only been doing bareback for about four months, so it wasn't really going my way because I had never done it before," said Scott about his bareback riding performances.

Scott participated in 27 rodeos in 1995, earning about \$7,000 in prize and jackpot money. "For a rookie year that really isn't too bad," Scott noted.

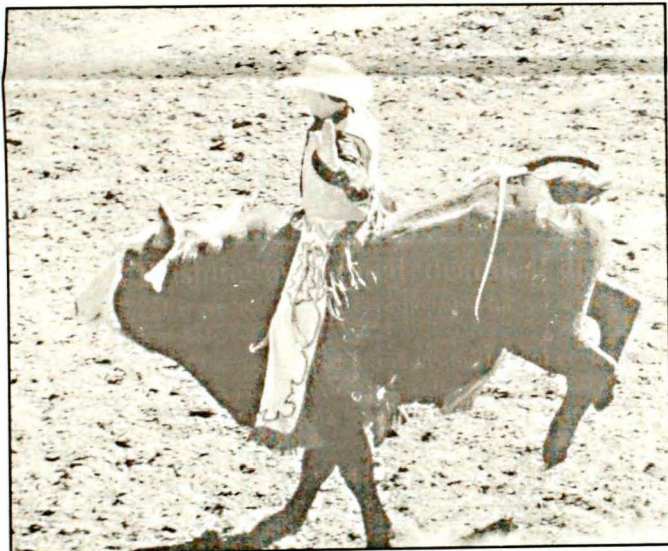
In addition to military rodeos, Scott also participates in the area's IPRA-sanctioned rodeos. He rode in the KSON CountryFest and Rodeo at the Lakeside Rodeo Grounds in June. "Didn't do so hot there, but that's the way the ball bounces sometimes," he reflected.

Scott has been practicing at Pacific Bull, which moved from Poway to Ramona in May, for about a year. "I feel his place in Poway really improved my

riding a lot and actually saved me some money instead of having to drive to Riverside all the time," said Scott of Pacific Bull and owner Kurt Gillespie. "It's probably the friendliest practice arena around."

has obtained a PRCA permit, which allows him to participate in some PRCA-sanctioned rodeos, and will receive his PRCA card as soon as he earns \$1,000 in PRCA events.

The 30 entrants in the Bull



Bullriding will be the main event on July 4. Photo by Greg Eichelberger

Gillespie was the cause of Scott becoming a rodeo organizer. "The stock contractor out here is trying to make a bigger name for himself," said Scott of Gillespie, who provided about a dozen bulls at the Camp Pendleton rodeo in early June. "I knew the (MRCA) commissioner and I talked to him about setting up a rodeo out here."

Pacific Bull estimates that 85-90 percent of its practice riders are military personnel due to the military providing insurance and the number of military personnel who grew up in areas in which rodeo is a major sport.

Scott's four-year enlistment in the Navy is up in April 1997, and the sonar technician plans to leave the military at that time.

"I make more money rodeoing than I do in the military. Close to three times the amount," he remarked. Scott

## Commentary

# Libertarian should be Chargers MVP

by Joe Naiman

Don't be surprised if the San Diego Chargers take it all this year. And credit should go to East County resident Steve Green.

The parity in the National Football League has increased since the Chargers were overmatched in Super Bowl XXIX two seasons ago. The Steelers are without Neil O'Donnell and John Elway and Marcus Allen are getting older. The Chargers have just as much of a chance of a Super Bowl championship as any other team. What gives them the advantage is that they know they need it the most.

Last year, the Chargers' biggest opponent was the Kansas City Chiefs. This year the Chargers' biggest opponent is the Libertarian Party. The Chargers ownership wants a public bond issue to expand San Diego Jack Murphy Stadium, and they'll have to beat

the Libertarians and the Hendersons to do it.

To fill the unexpanded stadium, the Chargers need the support of only 58,000 fans. To get public approval for a bond issue, the Chargers will need approval of the voting public. It will be much easier for the Chargers to get public support for a new stadium if they have a 12-4 season than if they have an 8-8 season. For the Chargers to get their new stadium, they have to produce a winner this year. The better the Chargers' performance, the more support they'll have for their stadium project.

Last year the Chargers had a 9-7 record. This was good enough to get into the playoffs, but was it good enough to get into the hearts of San Diego County's voters? The performance of Steve Green shows that the Chargers need to do a lot better.

Steve Green, the chairman of the Libertarian Party of San Diego County, is one of the litigants in the stadium lawsuit. This year he is making his second run for a seat on the Santee City Council. During his 1994 campaign, he also took on the Grossmont Union High School District, which was trying to pass a bond issue ballot measure.

This year he's also taking on the Chargers. As of late June, Green had raised more money and had commitments from more volunteers than he did at the same time two years ago. Obviously, taking on the Chargers isn't hurting Steve Green. If it's as obvious to the Chargers, they'll be doing something about it.

Even without Green on the city council, Santee seems willing to rebuke the Chargers. Jim Romine, who holds the council seat Green is seeking, introduced a resolution in support of the Chargers' expansion plans (including the bond

issue without a public vote) and included a paragraph condemning opponents of the expansion. The rest of the council apologized for Romine's actions and took the condemnation clause out of the resolution. They also removed the specifics of expansion before passing a resolution supporting stadium expansion — with no specific references to the Chargers' plan.

The Chargers aren't selling in Santee. They're not strong enough to beat Steve Green. While coach Bobby Ross focuses on overcoming the burly lineman on the teams on the Chargers' schedule, the Chargers can't stack up with the short bespectacled CPA from Santee.

Alex Spanos is a smart man and he knows what the team has to do to beat the Libertarians and the Hendersons. He has to put together a team which will garner the support of the voting public. This year he will pull out all the stops, focusing on this season rather than playing for the future. And since the NFL wants the Chargers to be playing in an expanded stadium, expect a few referees' calls to go the Chargers' way this year.

If the Chargers have an unprecedented season this year, it is because they had to play at that level to earn the support of the voting public. The performance of Steve Green has been essential in making the Chargers earn that support.

Although Green does not play for the Chargers, his performance will probably be the biggest contribution to the Chargers' success. If the Chargers can skirt the rules concerning a public vote for bond issues, they can find a way to make Green the team's Most Valuable Player.

If the Chargers have a championship season, Steve Green deserves it.

## 'Crazy' a great excuse to groove to Gershwin

by Marv Rosen

The plot was corny and some of the arrangements may have been outdated, but with some of the most-loved Gershwin melodies such as "They're Writing Songs of Love" and "Embrace Me," and some outstanding dance routines, the Christian Community Theater performance of "Crazy for You" at the East County Performing Arts Center (ECPAC) on Friday had the audience applauding enthusiastically throughout the show.

"Crazy for You," which had won a Tony Award for Best New Musical in 1992, is a revised version of the Gershwin "Girl Crazy" with other favorite Gershwin songs added.

Led by the singing and excellent dance routines of Jason Schauer, who plays the dance-crazy Bobby Childs, the show is a delight for the funnybone. The female lead, Errollyn Yavorsky (who plays Polly

Baker), sang and danced with (and without) Schauer in a sparkling and winning manner.

But the heart and soul of the show are the dance routines written for the Gershwin songs, which are just excuses for those routines, as was the norm for musicals during the 1930s. Especially intriguing is the duet involving two identically dressed performers, Schauer and Jon Lorenz (Bela Zanger).

Don't go this musical expecting the sometimes more sophisticated plots of many of the modern musicals, just go to enjoy the dancing, Gershwin's music and the often screwball dance routines which have a bunch of characters who trip over their own feet become "polished" performers.

Great fun for all. The show runs through Sunday at ECPAC, 210 E. Main Street in El Cajon.



